AMENDMENTS

In the Specification:

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 8 and replace such paragraph pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(ii) with the "clean" version set forth below. Entry is respectfully requested. A version with markings to show the changes made pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(iii) is attached hereto as Appendix A.

Replacement for paragraph at page 5, lines 8 to 15:

It is assumed that the number of bits of the memory access unit is M1 bits, and the number of coded data bits of the compressing processing units, which are allocated based on a compression ratio, are N1, N2, N3, ... Nn, respectively, and M1 < N1 + N2 + ... Nn. In this case, coded data of n blocks cannot be extracted through one access. Accordingly, by decreasing the number of bits allocated by N1 + N2 + ... Nn by N1 + N2 + ... Nn - M1, an allocated number of bits can be made equal to or less than M1, an allocated bit can be made equal to or less than M1, and therefore, the coded data can be taken out through one access.

In the Claims:

1.   (Amended) A moving picture decoding apparatus to which a compressed stream generated using inter-frame prediction is input, said apparatus comprising:

a compressor that compresses a decoded image and stores the resulting compressed image in a memory;

an expander that expands a compressed image stored in said memory;

a quantization controller that controls how quantization is performed in said compressor; and

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